

ARTICLE APPEARED
IN
27WASHINGTONIAN
January 1986**WALTER L. PFORZHEIMER ►*****And on the Eighth Day God Created Yale, Which Will Get All These Spy Books***

His Watergate duplex overflows with spy memorabilia—a letter written by George Washington in 1777 on the value of intelligence; prints by Soviet spy Rudolf Abel, who used art as a cover; and an original photograph of Mata Hari, clad only in an ornate bra and jeweled anklets. “I’m too old to get embarrassed,” says Walter Pforzheimer, 71, the bald, pink-faced dean of Washington’s retired intelligence corps. He also collects rare books and currently is cataloguing his valuable cache of the works of French dramatist Molière. Draped over a chair in his living room is a reminder of his alma mater, a T-shirt emblazoned, “And on the eighth day God created Yale.” Pforzheimer’s collections eventually will go there.

Pforzheimer’s 44 years in intelligence began in World War II.

After service in the European theater, he became the Central Intelligence Agency’s first legislative counsel. He retired in 1974 and now is rounding out a dozen years as instructor at the Defense Intelligence College.

Pforzheimer usually reads until the wee hours, lazes over the morning papers, skips lunch, and dines at the Watergate Hotel. He travels to Europe every other year. A man of considerable charm, he has escaped marriage, he says, by being “very fast on my feet.” He deplores his lack of “an English sheep dog. I grew up with as many as five at a time, all considering themselves lap dogs. I just miss them so. The firm in England where my family got them won’t sell me one to live in an apartment. I said, ‘Something in this apartment has got to have hair on it.’”

